

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 083996
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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APPROVED BY EUR - RDVINE
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R 010250Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL QUEBEC
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083996

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CA

SUBJECT: QUEBEC QUERY RE CALL BY LEVESQUE ON PRESIDENT

REF: QUEBEC 095

1. WHILE DEPARTMENT CAN UNDERSTAND CONSUL GENERAL'S NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSE TO QUERY WHETHER PRESIDENT MIGHT RECEIVE QUEBEC PREMIER LEVESQUE IF HE VISITED WASHINGTON (REFTEL), WE ARE CONCERNED THAT IMPRESSION CONVEYED MAY HAVE BEEN MORE POSITIVE THAN SITUATION WARRANTS.

2. IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT WOULD RECEIVE LEVESQUE. IT HAS NOT BEEN PRACTICE FOR PROVINCIAL PREMIERS TO CALL AT THAT LEVEL ON WASHINGTON VISITS, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY HAVE BEEN OCCASIONAL EXCEPTIONS, AND DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT RECOMMEND SPECIAL TREATMENT FOR
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LEVESQUE WITH ITS POTENTIAL FOR MISINTERPRETATION.

3. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO SEE VAIN HOPE THAT WHITE HOUSE CALL COULD BE ARRANGED ENCOURAGE PLANS TO BE MADE FOR WASHINGTON TRIP FOR LEVESQUE, NOR WOULD WE WISH, SHOULD SUCH A TRIP TAKE PLACE, UNNECESSARILY TO HAVE TO DISAPPOINT ENTRENCHED EXPECTATIONS, WELL FOUNDED OR NOT.

4. FOR THESE REASONS CONSUL GENERAL IS REQUESTED TO SEEK APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO ADVISE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT THAT ON LOOKING INTO WHITE HOUSE PRACTICE, YOU HAVE FOUND THAT PROVINCIAL PREMIERS HAVE NOT ORDINARILY BEEN RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT, BOTH OF WHOM NATURALLY HAVE HAD TO LIMIT SCHEDULING IN VIEW OF HEAVY DEMANDS ON THEIR TIME, AND YOU WOULD NOT WANT TO HOLD OUT ANY EXPECTATION THAT SHOULD PREMIER LEVESQUE VISIT WASHINGTON, SUCH A CALL COULD BE ARRANGED.

5. PLEASE REPORT DEMARCHE WHEN MADE AND REACTION IF ANY. COOPER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 01 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
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